

**From:** [JOHNSON Keith](#)  
**To:** [Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA](#)  
**Cc:** [Chip Humphrey/R10/USEPA/US@EPA](#); [JOHNSON Keith](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Downtown Portland FSP- Email 1 of 3  
**Date:** 04/21/2008 12:44 PM

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Thanks Eric. Ambient is general urban background coming through the study area. We make this determination at individual sites when drawing SMAs. For this areawide project, DEQ does intend to make some statements about ambient levels of contamination in this part of the river, as we did in the Slough. We have not determined yet how we will do that, or how definitive our conclusions will be. They will likely consider LWG sampling already completed in this area.

This is important because analysis will likely show that some level of contamination is pervasive. It will also help us prioritize work within this and the PH SA.

-----Original Message-----

From: Blischke.Eric@epamail.epa.gov  
[mailto:Blischke.Eric@epamail.epa.gov]  
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2008 11:12 AM  
To: JOHNSON Keith  
Cc: Humphrey.Chip@epamail.epa.gov  
Subject: Re: Downtown Portland FSP- Email 1 of 3

Keith, I sent the SAP and associated tables over to Gina. I will get back to you on the timing of the review. In addition, I took a quick look at the scoping document and offer up the following comments on the Initial Sampling Goals:

1. Determine an ambient concentration of contaminants in sediment.

I do not know what "ambient concentration" means. I think it would be better to simply say "Develop a preliminary understanding of sediment contamination within the target study area"

2. In consideration of ambient concentrations, identify areas of sediment deposition in excess of acceptable HH and Ecological screening levels, and related hotspot concentrations. Sampling would be completed at most BES MS4 outfalls, and near sites as identified from either DEQ existing Cleanup sites, product use at facilities, or existing in-river sediment contamination where source and/or extent is poorly understood.

I would simplify this objective to say: "Perform a screening level evaluation to identify chemicals and areas of sediment contamination that represent a potential risk to human health or the environment."

3. Evaluate whether sediment in the reach poses a recontamination threat to the PH Study Area (consistent with our role in the MOU as lead agency for SC).

Agree.

4. Develop a strategy to treat or remove hot spots, and control remaining sources to levels protective of HH and the environment.

Agree

Hope this helps.

Eric

"JOHNSON Keith"  
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04/21/2008 08:57  
AM

To  
Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US@EPA  
cc  
Subject  
Downtown Portland FSP- Email 1 of  
3

[attachment "Appendix C - Planned Sampling Locations with Bathymetry.pdf" deleted by Eric Blischke/R10/USEPA/US]